

## **Florence Township Council Executive Session 10/9/24**

Florence, New Jersey  
October 9, 2024

The Florence Township Council held an executive meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Council President Baldorossi at 7:00 p.m. Council President Baldorossi led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice was posted on the township website and published in the Burlington County Times and Trenton Times on January 7, 2024.

### **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Joseph Frappolli, John Fratinardo, Nicholas Haas, Talaya Loftin, Frank Baldorossi

Also Present: Mayor Kristan I. Marter; Thomas A. Sahol, Township Administrator; Thomas J. Hastie, Jr., Esq., Township Solicitor; Nancy L. Erlston, Township Clerk; Jenise Silinsky, Deputy Township Clerk

Absent: None

### **FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMENT**

Council President Baldorossi opened the meeting to the public.

Gina Sullivan, 147 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, addressed Mayor Marter and stated that in March and April of this year she provided the Mayor with contact information to state and federal agencies with funding opportunities, resources and assistance that Florence Township may be eligible for to help fund transportation and water infrastructure projects in town. Considering improvements are much needed for our water facility as well as the added expense of the PFAS water treatment facility we need to build, she believes we should be looking into any and all state and federal resources we can and doing our due diligence especially considering our town's financial situation. Taxes and water and sewer rates were just raised and we should be making sure taxpayers in this town are getting the best value for their money. She asked the Mayor for any updates.

Mayor Marter thanked Ms. Sullivan for providing the information and explained that she has been in touch with the NJDEP to work with them and IBank on our water and then working toward what other resources we need. We are not quite at the point for farming resources funding because we don't know the amounts yet as far as what we are going to need for PFAS. When we get to the point where we try and move forward with finding funding for this she will definitely make those connections.

Administrator Sahol explained that the Water and Sewer Engineer vets any of those opportunities. Some grants are population dependent as well as customer service dependent so if you have a certain service population, our community is around 13,000 people but we only service about 8,000 subscribers, there are cutoffs and we have to look at those cutoffs and see what they are. There are also demographics involved in communities whereas some communities are better served than others but we definitely look at any opportunity that is out there. He stated that we did submit two legislative requests this year which are

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basically congressional requests. They are not grants as much as they are an earmark. He explained that we have been successful with those in the past and he is hoping to be successful once again.

Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, a Motion was made by Loftin, seconded by Frappolli to close the public comment portion. Voice vote – All ayes.

### BUSINESS

- Livestock – Keeping of Chickens

Administrator Sahol asked Council if there was an interest in amending the existing ordinance to allow residents in the Residential Zoning Districts to keep chickens. With Council's approval, he would do some research and come back with more specific details. Council agreed to have a discussion once he comes back with the specifics at a later date.

### ACTION

#### Resolutions

- A. 2024-193, Approve Partial Payment No. 5 for 2023 Local Road Program
- B. 2024-194, Approve Current Estimate No. 9 for Hornberger Pump Station
- C. 2024-195, Authorize Refund of Tax Payments
- D. 2024-196, Canceling Taxes on Property Owned by a Totally Disabled Veteran, Block 165.08, Lot 1

Motion by Haas, seconded by Fratinardo to approve Resolution Nos. 2024-193 through 2024-196.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Frappolli, Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Baldorossi
  - NOES: None
  - ABSENT: None
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

#### Ordinances

- A. 2024-17, Fixing the Compensation of Certain Officials and Employees of the Township of Florence (Intro. & 1<sup>st</sup> Reading) (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Public Hearing and Adoption 11/6/2024)

Motion by Haas, seconded by Loftin to approve Ordinance No. 2024-17.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

- YEAS: Frappolli, Fratinardo, Haas, Loftin, Baldorossi
  - NOES: None
  - ABSENT: None
- Unanimous vote – Motion carried

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council President Baldorossi opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Don Cammus, 580 E. Sixth Street, explained that the Roebing Historical Society will be rolling out its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual George Lengel, Jr. Community Support Scholarship program. Last year they gave two graduating seniors from Florence Township Memorial High School each a \$1,000 scholarship and this year they hope to do the same. He stated that they do not necessarily have to be a senior in the Florence Township Memorial High School, it could be a senior that attends Northern Burlington High School, Holy Cross, BCIT or Notre Dame High School but they have to be a Florence Township resident.

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Seeing no one else wishing to be heard, a Motion was made by Haas, seconded by Loftin to close the public comment portion. Voice vote – All ayes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion of Frappolli seconded by Haas to Adjourn. Voice vote – All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC  
Township Clerk  
/js